Dear Dave, 7/28/92

This surely is my day for writing you! Only this time they'll not all be in one mailing. This letter will be with the enclosures I'll come to.

The consultation at Johns Hopkins today knocked all my plans in many directions.

I'm to stay up no matter how sleepy I get and not do any work from before supper. This includes not reading anything related to my work. I'm then to persevere in trying to sleep when I'm wide awake and to stay abed if at all possible until 6 or as close to it as I can. And that is the time I've been getting home from my early-morning walking on the days I do not have blood tests.

On the days I do, for the coming month I'm to have my blood pressure checked at the lab and after my physical therapy about 45 minutes later. The systolic was 200 when the doctor took it this morning, over 80. Both are high for me. Once before this happened, at Hopkins, and I had only the tests at the lab for a month. Less than an hour earlier, at the main hospital (the sleep work is at the research center six miles away) when I was given my monthly lupron shot the nurses made a mistake and took my blood pressure. It then was slightly higher than my recent norm, 169/71.

He was asking me about what I do and I told him that lately I've been writing and believe it has gone as well as I can expact. He said he'd like to read it. I said maybe you won't because it is about the AMA and I'm sure it won't like it. Well, that set him off. Turns out he quit the AMA. We did not go into why but he would like to read what he knows is a rough first draft. And because of his attitude I think I'd like him to. It just may be that he might be helpful.

So, as I write this Lil is xeroxing the pages of Dirty Linen and the second half of that original chapter, What a Stench, on which I spotted typos and an omission I've written in. If your gadget also prints I'd appreciate it if after making these corrections and you send me those pages if you'll also send me an extra copy of all the chapters. I'll want Jerry to read them anyway and this doctor will return that set.

I'm going to have to decide the sequence of the chapters and then add continuity but I do not want to take time for that now. But it you have any suggestions I'd appreciate getting them.

I'm also not to take any naps. The doctor thinks that may make me so tired that I'll be able to sleep better. My own belief is that all this crazy pattern started when I found using the urinal abed was often not possible.

My mind is on a call I just got: year's first local corn. A dozen Silver Queen are being picked for us now and I'll go for it, adding anything I think of when I read and correct this.

Best,
Harold

Dear Dave, 7/28/92- 1:19 a.m.!!!

I was wide awake last night, at 11:30, when I am driven to Johns Hopkins this morning and should have slept later. After I write this I'll try to get an nap but I'm so keyed up I'm not optimistic about that. (Could not)

When we spoke day before yesterday in your comment on one of the chapters of 28 Years you said I was too modest in reference to my published work. In that same conversation I told you that I planned to use some of what I pubished in Post Mortem rather than to paraphrase or rewite it. My reason was to be repeating what was readily available to Lundberg and of which at least to a large degree Humes and Boswell were aware of from my having written them and sending them copies of Whitewash (which I'll have to go over for a purpose similar to what follows).

So, up too early, I checked Post Mortem, with the index. I am astounded at the number of references to the autopsy in it and am thinking of counting them and mentioning that in 28 Years. And I've a list of the pages to be copied for this writing now.

In rereading those pages for the first time since I published that book in 1975 I am truly impressed with its inclusiveness and its definitiveness. While that is not why I'd planned to use it rather than write new copy now, stated above, I think it makes my purpose a correct decision because it is also very, very powerful stuff!!!!

Yet I am concerned about how that might be taken by any prospective publisher rather than readers. I have such a voluminous reaction from readers I know they'll like it, if perhaps reviewers might now.

I am talking about extensive quotations from Post Mortem and when I've gone over Whitewash, perhaps some from it.

Not to appear all at one point. What I began looking for is references to what Humes testified to about when he destroyed what to bracket with his lies to Lundberg. That will be one use. Others will relate to the nonfatal wounds and the head wound. But there is a great amount of what I'll have to think about in terms of where to include it and that is an incredible case of the destruction of records or at least their nonexistence where Specter said they existed, (in CDs and exhubits. Instinctively I am inclined to believe that should be a separate 28 Years chapter. Third in Part 2.

So, not to forget, before trying to take a nap I'd like your opinion on this. I'll ask Jerry, too. "This" meaning using lengthy, perhaps page after uninterrupted page, from Post Mortem and less from Whitewash, verbatim. I'll appreciate your personal opinion about doing that and your estimate about how it will be regarded by others. I do not want it to appear to be boasting. But I think it is important to give what was readily available to Lundberg and he should have known about and considered as both an editor and a pathologist and of, course, an interviewer ostensibly seeking fact and truth.

Hastily, Harold